

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:456
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION SCHEME
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government have launched a special programme viz 'Pre-School Education Scheme';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of children likely to be covered thereunder;
- (d) whether it is a fact that this scheme is largely focussed on urban areas of the country;
- (e) whether this scheme is a duplication of many existing schemes;
- (f) if so, the steps proposed to review the efficacy of this scheme; and
- (g) the funds earmarked for this scheme in 2003-2004?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) to (g) : Do not arise.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 458 REGARDING FOREIGN SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS BY SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI AND SHRI T. GOVINDAN

(a) to (f): Guidelines have already been issued by the Cabinet Secretariat in December 1999 regarding clearance for study/research schemes involving foreigners/foreign collaboration from security/sensitivity angle and by the Ministry of Home Affairs in September 2000 regarding security clearance for holding international conferences/seminars/workshop/etc. in India. The guidelines issued by Ministry of Human Resource Development on 31st January 2003 mainly relate to the procedure to be observed by Central Universities to enter into an MoU with foreign Universities/Institutions with prior clearance from Ministry of Human Resource Development. These guidelines have neither curtailed academic freedom of foreign students nor are they a setback to promoting education and foreign participation in the education sector. At present there is no proposal to review the guidelines of January 2003.